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## Central Florida Future, Vol. 29 No. 30, January 8, 1997

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# The Central Florida Future

vol. 29 • No. 30

Serving the University of Central Florida since 1968

Jan. 8, 1997

## Inside

## News

Check out the long awaited Student Union Building on the inside of *The FUTURE*

Pg. 2

## Features

Catch the verdict on *Ghosts of Mississippi* Pg. 11



## Sports



The UCF men's basketball team continues to struggle through the season. Saturday's buzzer beating loss to Samford drops the Golden Knights to 3-9 on the season.

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## Student Union nears completion

by DANELLE MARABLE  
Staff writer

The elusive building that stands behind the new Computer Science Building, commonly known as the Student Union, will soon become a reality. According to Student Union Director, Mark Hall, "The building will be open to students on March, 17, but the grand opening won't be until the fall." Mr. Hall is quick to point out that although it will be open, there might not be much available for student use yet. "The businesses do not want to open for only a month and then close for the summer. However, by the beginning of the fall semester, everything planned to be in the new building will be fully operational."

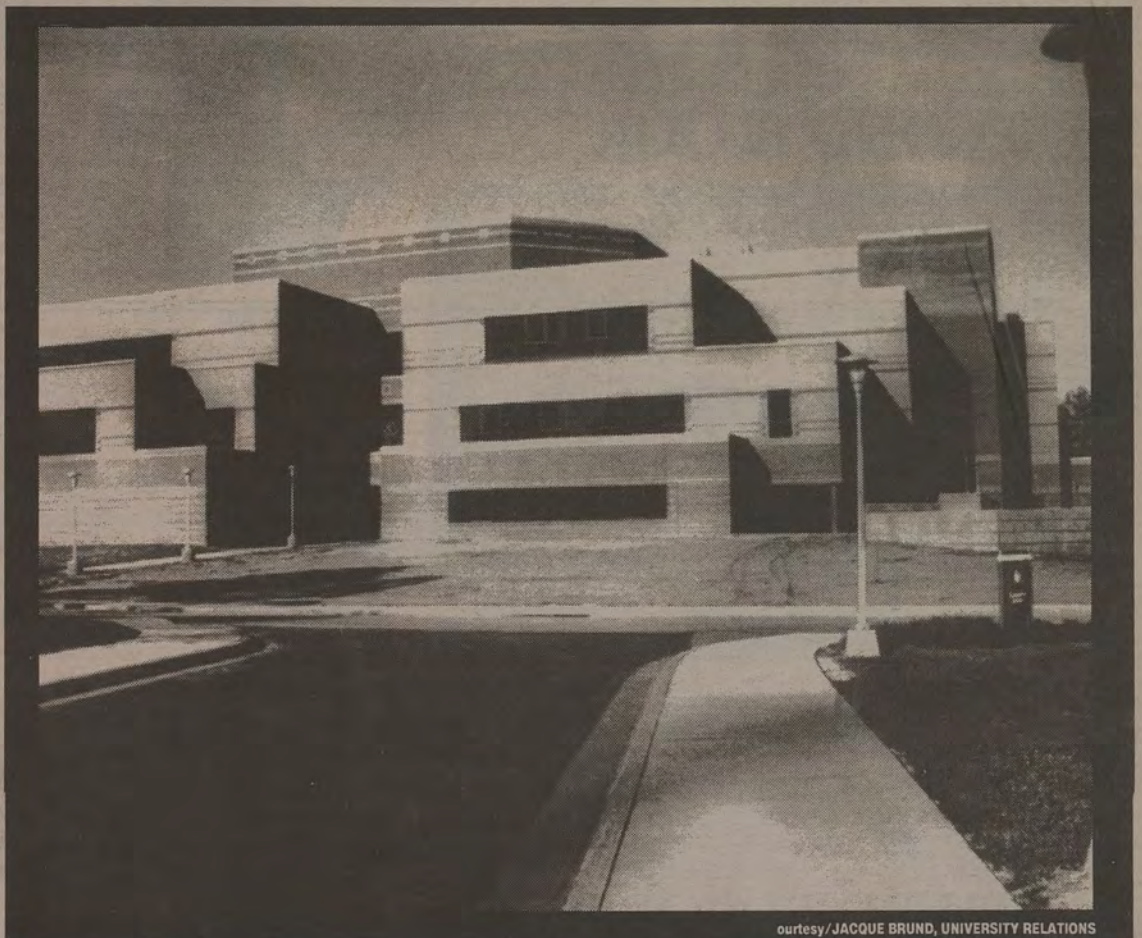
There have been many rumors floating around as to what the building will contain, some true and some not so true.

The first floor will be dedicated to retail:

- Wendy's
- Sbarro's
- Subway
- A dining area
- Sweet Retreat, a dessert shop
- Java Express, a coffee shop
- An information desk
- Loco's Pub, a restaurant that will serve wine and beer
- A game room that will contain pool tables, video games, and maybe dart boards
- STA Travel
- Mailboxes, Etc.

- Greek Unique
- UCF Logo Store
- University Floral & Gifts
- The UCF Computer Store
- 3 ATMs
- Vending machines
- The Student Government Kiosk
- Included on the Second floor are:
- The Campus Activities Board
- Student Government
- Student Activities

- A Macintosh computer lab
- Various meeting spaces
- The third floor will contain:
- Student lounges
- Union administration offices
- A dining room available for rent
- A two story ballroom
- There is nothing available for student use on the fourth floor as of now. There will be courtyards with benches all around and a boardwalk that takes you to the Arena parking lot and the Business Building. There is also a



courtesy/JACQUE BRUND, UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

place for vendors to set up outside.

The Union is run by The Student Union Board. This board includes 14 students, four alternates and five faculty and staff. The Board is broken down into committees that include policy, finance, long range planning, marketing and space allocation.

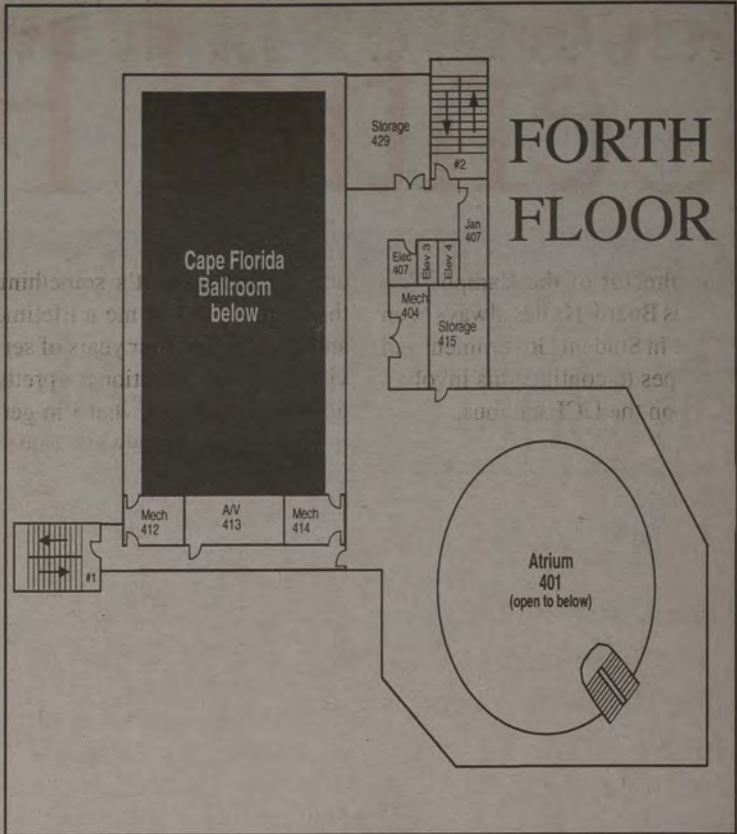
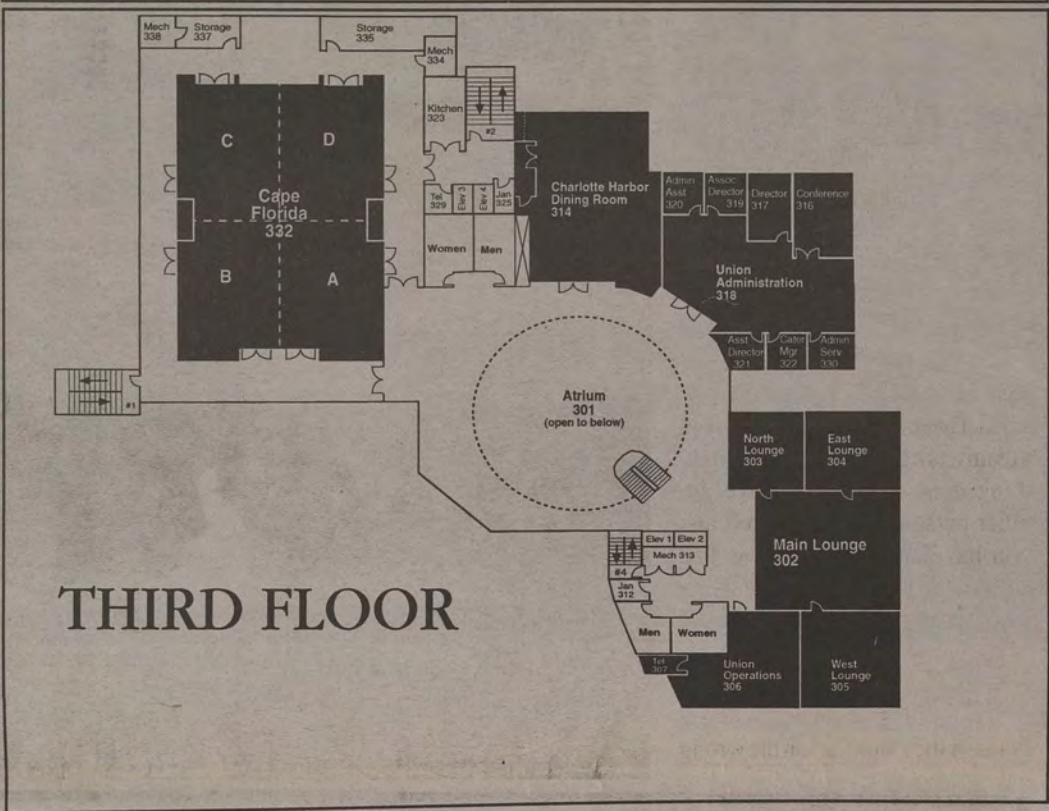
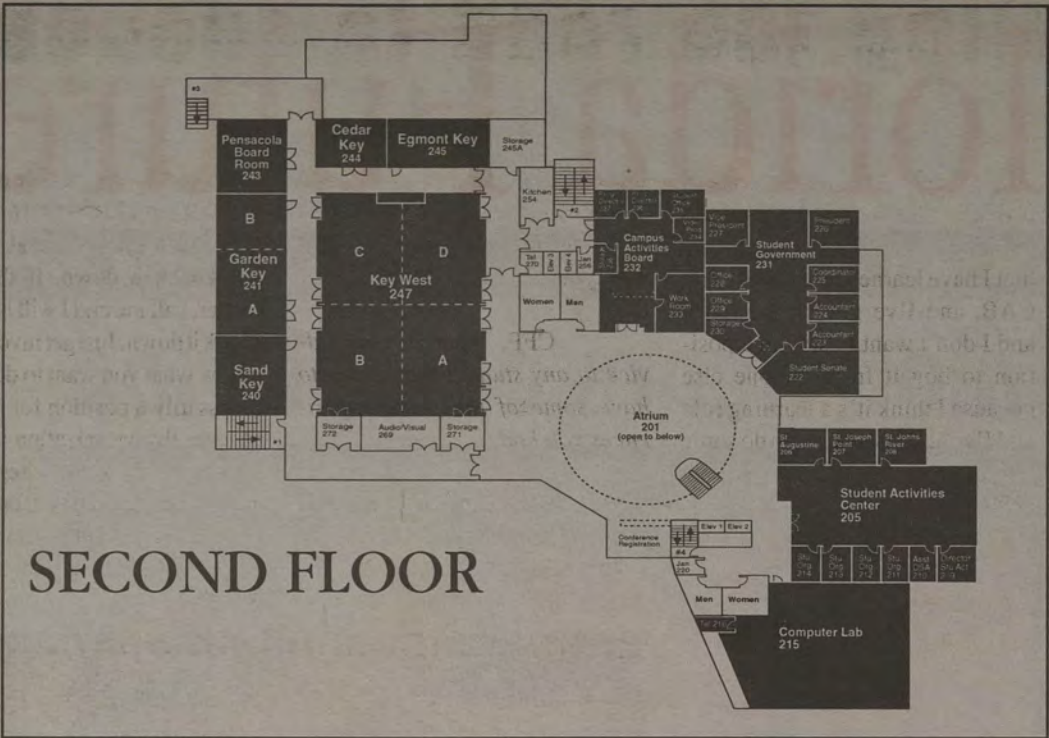
Hall believes that it is important that the building is open this semester because, "We want the students who are not returning in the fall to see it, even if there will not be much in it." Much of what will be in the Student Union on Mar. 17 also depends on the furniture arriving. They have ordered desks, chairs, benches and couches. "If there are no tables and chairs in the meeting room, then obviously we can't have meetings," said Hall. Most of the retailers and offices will be moving in over the summer.

There will also be many jobs available to the students in the Union according to Hall, all of the hiring will be done later this semester. "We will make due with the students we have now through the summer and have all jobs filled in the fall. We are hiring this spring for next fall because it would not be fair to the students. Most students are not here during the summer and we need to give them an equal opportunity."



see UNION, page 2





# We need your help

by TRACY WEBB  
News editor

The Central Florida Future will be featuring a new weekly column dedicated to student leaders. We will feature an interview with the student as well as their picture (space allowing). The students featured will be chosen from nominations sent to us by you, the reader. We need you to nominate your friends, roommates, brothers, sisters and even yourself or anybody else that you feel should be recognized for their outstanding achievements.

These achievements can have taken place on or off campus, but they must be reputable.

We want to recognize people from all areas of our campus. The leaders that we will recognize do not have to be presidents of anything, but if you are that is OK too. We are looking for people who care about the UCF campus as well as the outside community.

The only official requirement for anybody that is nominated is that they must be a current student of UCF. There

will not be a limit of how many credit hours a person is taking and the person chosen will not have to disclose his/her GPA.

When nominating, please include either your phone number or the nominee's phone number so that the Central Florida Future can get in contact with them.

All nominations should be directed to Tracy Webb c/o The Central Florida Future, 11875 High Tech Ave., Suite 250, Orlando, FL 32817. You can also leave a message for me at 823-8054 or fax me at 823-9495.

## Writers Wanted!

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# Rico Brown: traveling the road to success

by TRACY WEBB  
News editor

Rico Brown is the current director of the Campus Activities Board. He has always been active in Student Government and he hopes to continue his involvement on the UCF campus.

CFF: What is your major?

RB: Political Science, Public Administration

CFF: What made you choose this major?

RB: Well, ever since I was in school I wanted to do something in the capacity of leading and serving others, so that's why I chose political science. I also found out once I got here that it [major] was more so public administration and a little of political science.

CFF: What do you plan on doing with this degree?

RB: My goal is to go back home. My home is Cocoa. It's a small city, about 16,000, often confused with Cocoa Beach. My goal is to start there and to eventually work my way up to the White House but rename it the Brown House.

CFF: How did you get involved on campus?

RB: Well, I've always had the philosophy that I'm coming to college to get a four year degree, and so that's something that's going to last me a lifetime and I figure that four years of service in any organization is a pretty good exchange for what I'm getting out of here. I've always wanted to get involved because if you just come here and go to class and go home you are losing a lot. And if I hadn't of gotten involved I wouldn't have met the people that I've met and I wouldn't have the opportunities to experience the leadership roles that I have experienced.

CFF: What organizations have you been involved with here on campus?

RB: My freshman year I was involved with SG [student government]. I was an associate justice. My sophomore year I was appointed as Chief Justice, the youngest Chief Justice in the history of our student government. In my Junior year I was involved in Consultants for Effective Leadership [CEL] and I was speakers director for the Campus Activities Board [CAB]. And this year as a senior I am the Student Director for the Campus Activities Board.

CFF: What are your goals for your future here at UCF?

RB: My intentions are to stay here and get a Master's and definitely stay involved. I think that I have learned all I could from CAB, and I've given all I have, and I don't want to stay in a position to hog it from anyone else because I think it's a learning role and I've always wanted to do some bigger offices in Student Government.

CFF: Are you considering running for Student Body President?

RB: I am considering.

CFF: What are some leadership qualities that have helped you in all of your positions?

RB: Some things that have helped me, being open minded, not saying your way is the only way, listening to others and involving others' ideas in with yours and sometimes you come up with the best idea because it is not totally one sided. I have always liked to work in a teamwork environment. If something goes wrong you have another person there to catch it and you have an influx of ideas that can only make what you are doing much better. You have to be friendly. A lot of people walk around with frowns on their faces because something went wrong at home or they woke up on the wrong

side of the bed. I believe that if you didn't cause me to get upset then there's no reason I should be upset with you.

CFF: What is your advice to any student that wants to have some of the same experiences you had.

RB: The door is open. If there were any barriers I believe that I have knocked them down. The door is open. Anything a person

wants to do, any club or organization that a student wants to join, the door is always there and they can just knock it down. If there is a barrier, call me and I will help them knock it down. Just get involved and follow what you want to do and not necessarily a position for power or because the organization is big but something fits your category. [It] Maybe a six person club or maybe a 100 person club but just do what you want to do and join those clubs that will benefit you.



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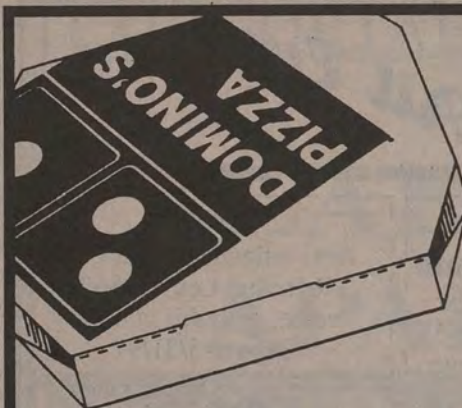
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


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# College Close-up

by COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

## Scientists: Nothing sweeter than the smell of chocolate

LONDON-Nothing seems to drive people more wild than the smell of chocolate, say British researchers.

Not even the aroma of coffee or a waft of garlic. The smell of chocolate makes brainwaves go "wild" and sends people into distraction, says Neil Martin, a neuropsychologist at London's Middlesex University.

No other smell tested on about 20 volunteers had such a strong effect, says Martin.

"Chocolate was quite a star performer in this experiment," he told the British Psychological Society's annual meeting, according to a Reuters report. "It seemed to make the brain go quite, scientifically, wild."

The volunteers were asked to sniff a variety of odors, including coffee, spearmint, almond, strawberry, garlic, baked beans and rotting pork. As they sniffed, Martin's research team measured their brain activity.

The smell of chocolate also was found to calm people, Martin says. "We found that they found it soothing, and they found it pleasing, and they found it very relaxing," he added.

## No-kissing command issued in wake of outbreak

LONDON- In an effort to combat a deadly meningitis outbreak, students at a British university were ordered Nov. 30 to avoid kissing and all other forms of intimate contact.

The rather unusual command follows the recommendation of health officials, who say a recent cluster of extremely rare meningitis cases at the University of Wales warrants a speedy and serious reaction.

"Everyone is behaving very responsibly. I have certainly not seen any panic among the students," said Dr. Bill Smith, chief medical officer for Bro Taf Health Authority, in a Reuters Report.

Vaccinations were planned for about 800 students following the death of a 19-year-old female student. Four other students have so far been affected, according to Reuters.

Meanwhile, at the campus at Cardiff, 140 miles west of London, bars have been closed and parties cancelled on health officials' advice. One student described the atmosphere as "morbid."

## Former Columbia Students arrested for counterfeiting

NEW YORK- Three former Columbia University students were arrested for learning to make money in college- counterfeit money, that is.

The U.S. Secret Service charged the former students and a non-student with counterfeiting more than \$80,000 in \$20 dollar bills on a copier in the basement of Columbia's journalism school.

Clifford T. Evans, who attended Columbia University until the spring semester of 1995, allegedly asked an employee of Columbia's printing center, Edward F. Olulenu, to run off some twenties.

Olulenu, a Columbia student until 1995, worked at the printing center until his arrest in November. Suzanne Trimel, a Columbia Spokesperson, described the print center as "very much like a Kinko's."

The bogus bills looked enough like the real thing to be accepted at several bars and restaurants in the New York area. The Secret Service spotted the fakes in May and began their investigation, eventually pinpointing the copier used to one sold to Columbia's printing center.

The alleged counterfeit scheme is a first for the Ivy League school. "We're reevaluating our oversight process to see if we can prevent this from happening in the future," Trimel said.

Two others- Keith Blackwell and Derick Warren, who dropped out of Columbia in the fall of 1993- were arrested for selling and passing the bills.

According to the Daily News, Evans was released on \$25,000 bail and commented:

"This was stupid. Real stupid."

Olulenu's attorney, Marty Geldudig, told the News his client isn't a bad guy: "He's a very bright young man who went deep into debt to go to college. He's not a kid who had any criminal intent."

The university is clueless as to what motivated the former students to allegedly make the

counterfeit cash, Trimel said.

But whatever their motivation may have been for producing the counterfeit loot, it wasn't enough to finance a Columbia education. The former students would have needed to run off far more twenties- about \$120,000 worth each- to pay for an undergraduate degree.

The Central Florida Future is looked for exciting, talented writers for the Spring Semester News staff. If interested please contact Tracy Webb at 823-8054. Look in next week's issue for the date of the first news writer meeting.



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## Club Info

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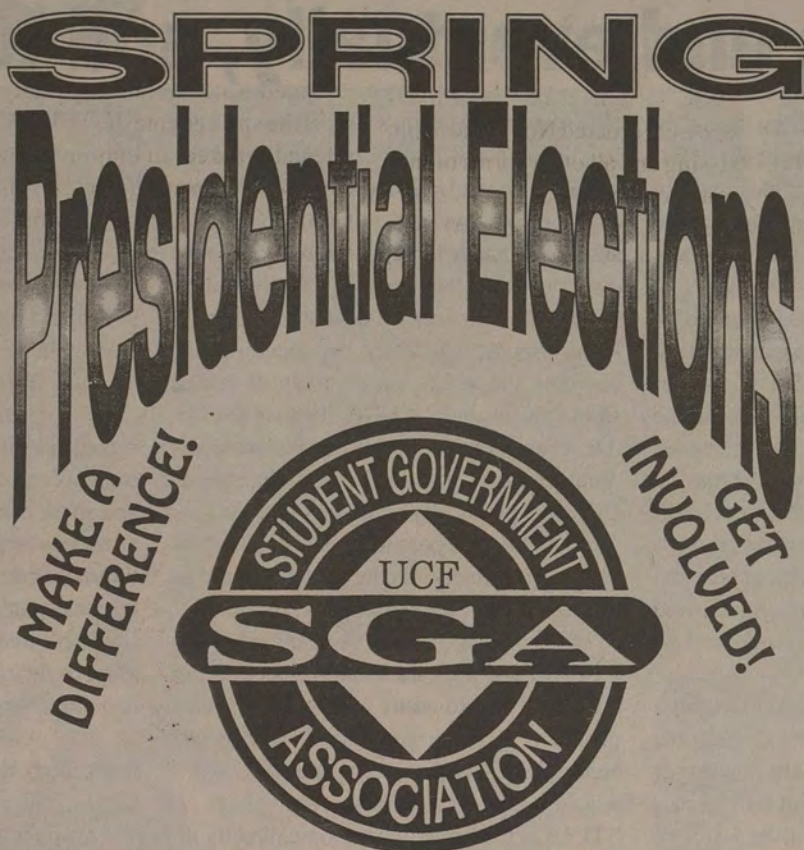
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# It had to end eventually, and today I say, 'Farewell'

It's been a fun ride, but this is my final issue as Opinion Editor of *The Central Florida Future*. I'm not graduating. I'm not moving on to better things, and I'm not leaving because I'm unhappy with the job. The *Future* is changing.

A businessman has decided to purchase this student newspaper and take control of the paper's content, staff, production and direction. He is a publisher in the area and has long experience in the newspaper and print business. As a result, he knows what the students want to read better than the students themselves. He also knows that this would be a better student newspaper if students, the current *Future* staff, were not in control of the paper's content and direction.

The goal of the new newspaper will be to provide a training ground for people who want to work in the newspaper business, and the content will be 100 percent UCF related. There will be no more coverage of Orlando Magic or Solar Bears games or other Orlando related stories outside the sphere of this campus according to the new direction of the newspaper. You will see only UCF sports in the sports section. This means that if your home NBA basketball team, the Orlando Magic, somehow battles out of its hole this season and goes on to take the NBA title, there prob-

ably won't be a student's slant on this miraculous story. You will, however, get to read details of the latest UCF Chess Team match-up.

Opinions and editorials are another subject of change for the newspaper. The new owner believes that there isn't really a place for the Opinion section, as it stands now, in his newspaper. Currently, my section prints columns and letters, on a variety of topics, from students here at UCF. He does not like the current format, because it includes columns on topics that don't directly pertain to UCF. He specifically noted a column on how teen and un-wed pregnancy is running rampant in our society, and he said the story has no place in the student newspaper. How is this so? It's a topic as close to us as any other. It's a subject that we care about, because we or our friends could easily be caught in such a predicament. In any case, it apparently doesn't belong in this student newspaper.

Let me summarize that: A STUDENT'S opinion on a topic directly affecting STUDENTS does NOT belong in this STUDENT newspaper.

So that's where we stand. A middle-aged business man will be buying this paper because he knows what the students want to read better than the students themselves.

As a Finance/Economics major, I understand about purchases, acquisitions and restructuring. I also know dearly about capi-

talism and profitability, and that's why he's buying the newspaper.

But at what cost?

If this student newspaper was designed in 1968 to be a training ground for UCF students and a means for them to be creative and share ideas with the UCF student body, how does taking control out of the students' hands and putting it in an outside businessman's hands accomplish that goal? It doesn't matter. It's business, and this is no longer a student newspaper. Now I understand how underground newspapers get started.

As I write this here in the *Future* news room, there's the very first issue of *The Central Florida Future*, dated October 7, 1968, up on the wall. It's yellowed and torn, but it's the *Magna Charta* to us. The paper didn't even have a name then; that was left up to a contest the following week where students sent in suggestions for the paper's title. Anyway, right there on page two, under "Editorial Policy" it says, "All shades of opinion are welcome." No more is this the case. History and tradition are being abandoned. It's not the same paper.

David Swartz Jr.  
Opinion Editor

In my two years here at *The Central Florida Future*, I've written over 60 columns and editorials totalling to over 38,000 words. I've also held two editorial positions here and have learned more and had more fun than I could have hoped. I didn't expect it to end like this. No. This is a disappointing day in my life.

But I thank you, the student body. I thank you for all the letters you've sent and all the help you've offered in these last two years, and I appreciate the love you've given me. This has been the only job I've ever had that I truly loved, and, at the risk of sounding pompous, I was \*#@\* good at it. Sadly, the job no longer exists — all for the need of the American Dollar.

So I'm signing off as Opinion Editor, as there is no more need for a student's opinion. I wish you luck in classes and later on in life, and I hope we all make of ourselves what we want. Maybe I'll see you around campus sometime. Farewell.

Editor's Note: If anyone needs to contact me, you can email me at [dbs05766@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu](mailto:dbs05766@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu)

## How to get along with your roommates, even if you don't want to

And so begins another semester at UCF. Another semester of classes. Another semester of quizzes. Another semester of tests. Another semester of reports and projects. And, yes, my friends, another semester of living with your roommates.

For those of you who have no roommates, I encourage you to read this anyway, as you may need this in the future. And for those of you with roommates, I force you to read this — It will definitely come in handy in the long run.

In my five semesters at UCF, I have gone through ten roommates. That's right, ten. And only one of them has stuck with me since the very beginning. Now, I know what you're thinking: "What's WRONG with this girl?!" But you should know that most of them did not move out because of me. Some were kicked out — excuse me — asked not to come back to the university. Some moved off campus, some got jobs and some decided going away to school just wasn't their thing.

That's not to say that I'm the perfect roommate. Ask any one of the ten and I'm sure they'll confirm that I'm not. But, seeing that I have gone through quite a few — some good, some not so good — I have come up with a quick how-to book small enough to fit in this column. I call it "*How to Get Along With Your Roommates, Even If You Don't Want to, but Want to Live in A Safe Environment Free of Four-Letter Words Flying From One End of the Room to the Other.*" I know, kind of a long title, but it's my first book — what do you expect?

### Rule #1: Exchange backgrounds

By this I mean don't just say, "Hi, my name is Olivia and I'm from Miami." Give details, lots of them. For instance, "Hi, my name is Olivia and I am a Hari Krishna who likes to go to the airport and sing for money." Not true, by the way, but this could prevent any accidental jokes being made about you.

However, avoid giving your roommate too much information about you. You don't want to scare them away the first week. For instance, avoid such phrases as, "Hi, my name is Olivia and my secret fantasy is to swim in the Reflection Pond wearing nothing but mittens." Another false statement, but it might cause your room-

mates to avoid you like the plague.

### Rule #2: State your pet peeves

If there's something that really bothers you, get it out in the open. Put your cards on the table before the game starts. It's better that your roommates know what really gets on your nerves than having to guess why you got mad at them for what seemed to be a harmless incident. For example, I hate the middle finger. No joke, I really do. You can call me every name in the book, but when you shoot me the bird, I really get offended. It may seem silly to a lot of you, but that's probably my only pet peeve. My longtime roommate now warns our newcomers of my pet peeve. She's seen the consequences of flipping me off and, let me assure you, it ain't pretty.

### Rule #3: To have overnight guests, or not to have overnight guests? That is the question.

And please answer it in the first week. PLEASE! One semester, I had two roommates who wanted to have overnight guests (of the opposite sex) and two who were strongly against it. In the beginning, we ruled it out, or so I thought. Maybe the two who were for overnight guests of the opposite sex were trying to avoid conflict, but it didn't work. In the middle of the semester, they wanted to change the rules, and that caused a lot of problems (and a three-hour roommate meeting that solved NOTHING!). Be honest and compromising when deciding this. If you and your roommate have differing opinions, maybe you can come out to a happy medium.

### Rule #4: Fill out your roommate contract

And if you don't have one, make one. Don't wait until you're fed up with always taking out the trash (ahem) before asking others to help out once in a while.

Things to consider in your roommate contract:

Appliances: If you're going to share appliances, clean them if you've made a mess. If you warmed up spaghetti in the microwave, wipe off the tomato stains. If you burned bread in the toaster oven, get rid of the crumbs.

Chores: This is where the trash comes into play. Either take turns or assign

one person to the job. Don't let the floor become unrecognizable before you clean it. A clean home is a happy home.

Your living space: If there is one place in your apartment where everyone must live and share, make sure you agree on how to maintain it. If you leave your shoes at the door after a long day, make sure others won't trip over them. If you do your homework on the living room floor, don't be upset if someone steps on your work. Everyone has to live there, not just you.

Household stuff: Who buys the napkins? Who buys the paper towels? Who buys the soap? If all this rests on one person's shoulders, offer to pay up. We all have budgets to maintain, and we aren't going to spend our money so you can wipe your mouth.

Attitudes: One of my friends has a rule in her apartment: leave your attitude at the door. If you feel you need to vent, vent responsibly. Don't send your roommate to hell just because you had a bad day.

Don't believe that just because you follow these rules you are going to live happily ever after. But, believe me, it helps. Also, don't think that you and your roommate will be best friends forever. I've been fortunate enough to become close friends with four of the roommates I've had, and I'm grateful for that. But I'm also grateful for the others I've had. They've taught me that living with strangers isn't easy and sometimes you have to compromise to make ends meet. The world does not revolve around you, but there are ways to make your world a little easier to live in.

Olivia Curnow  
Staff Columnist

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# features

## arts and entertainment



Whoopi Goldberg tries to hold back the tears in *Ghosts of Mississippi* (see review on page 11)

courtesy/CASTLE ROCK

### INSIDE

- Crossword puzzle ..... 8
- Dean's lowdown on *Secrets and Lies* / the deep South in *Ghosts of Mississippi* / Shirley's soap suds in *The Evening Star* / on the wings of *Michael* / teenage genocide in *Scream* / a clean *Marvin's Room* / two grumpy men in *I'm Not Rappaport* ..... 9, 11, 13 & 15
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### Writers Wanted

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**THE RELIC**

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## ACROSS

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 28 Relied on           |                       |
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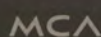
- 1 Hive dwellers
- 2 Jason's vessel
- 3 Large group of relatives
- 4 Spiny mammal
- 5 Kind of justice
- 6 Mexican Indian
- 7 Decant
- 8 A connective
- 9 City near Orlando
- 10 Food and drink
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- 12 Stuff
- 13 On the \_\_ (not speaking)
- 21 Short drive
- 23 Sage
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- 26 Dinner guest
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- 28 Wring
- 29 Furnish with materials
- 30 Twofold
- 31 Burro
- 32 Loose
- 34 Hush-hush gp., once
- 36 Wildly excited
- 37 Chilly state
- 39 Smudge
- 40 A Muse

[illegible]

- Time Magazine

- Heckler

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# FILM

by Dean G. Lewis

## Family Ties

In Mike Leigh's *Secrets and Lies*, Elizabeth (Marianne Jean-Baptiste), an optometrist who has been single all her life, seeks out to locate her birth mother. After Leigh's stirring opening sequence, in which we see the young Elizabeth quietly crying beside her dead mother's grave, this painful family journey takes us to Cynthia Rose (Brenda Blethyn, in a startling original performance), a factory worker struggling to make ends meet in a flat she shares with her rebellious 21-year-old daughter. The birth records indicate Cynthia is indeed Elizabeth's natural mother.

Leigh expertly carves out some real emotions in one of the year's best scenes in which the two women, upon meeting for the first time, retreat to a diner to discuss old matters. Blethyn, in a display of acting range not quite seen in years, goes through every stage imaginable for a desperate, needy soul in search of some tranquility and love in her life. We see a denial, a turning away from the lies, and eventually, an acceptance of the truth. At this point, Blethyn breaks down in tears, only to regroup, smile again, and make conversation with Elizabeth. In this entire scene, Leigh's camera does not move once, producing a stretch that is 8 minutes of static dramatic beauty.

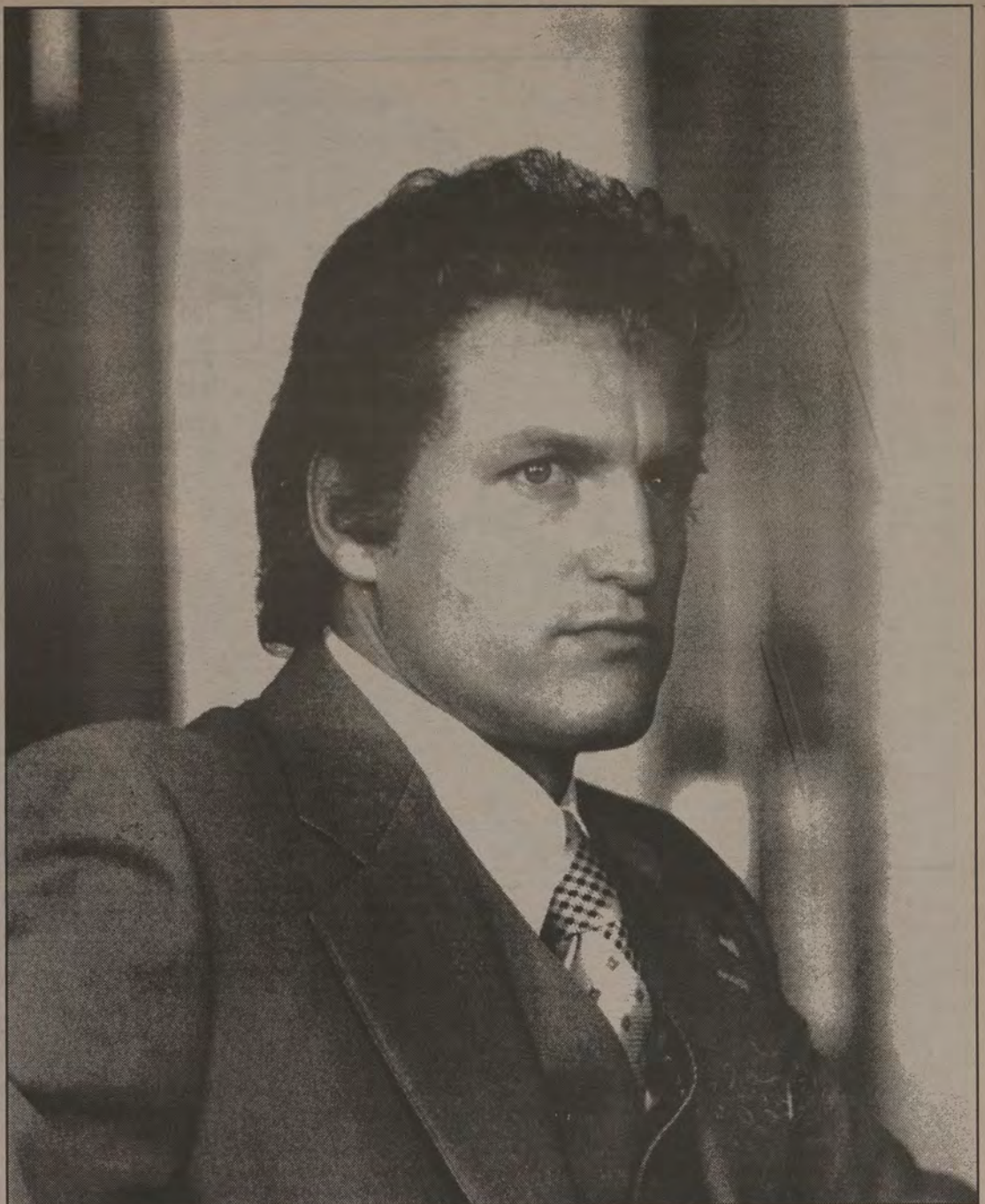
British television actor Timothy Spall plays Cynthia's little brother, Maurice. He's a well-to-do photographer who's fashioned a prosperous life for himself and his wife. The subjects he puts on print are ordinary folks who seem to defy the loneliness and despair Cynthia has been engulfed in most of her life. We meet, in colorful snapshots, an array of individuals that range from married couples and children, to old friends, pets, and a scarred blond charmer. Maurice plays, in a complex sort-of-way, an observer of the action. His understanding cuts a nerve through the deceptions explored in Leigh's screenplay. In the end at Maurice's home, as the family gathers for a birthday party, all the "secrets" and "lies" are revealed in honest detail. Family ties get patched up, the hurts begin their healing, and estrangements are abandoned in favor of reconciliations.

Leigh, who has an undeniable talent for whipping up working-class drama, scored three years ago with his equally-brilliant *Naked*. *Secrets and Lies* won the top honor at Cannes in May of last year, while Blethyn took home an award for her performance. In fact, all the performances from virtually every actor in *Lies* are exceptional. The film exposes an extraordinarily understated finesse that underlies the drama. This honest approach from Leigh proves the filmmaker is probably now at a watershed stage in his career. In his stories, the people are not only on the screen but in our heads and hearts as well. It is no secret this film is one of 1996's best. The characters push us, and themselves, to a cinematic epiphany in which reality takes over where imagination leaves off.

*Secrets and Lies* is currently showing at Enzian Theater. Check listings for showtimes and dates.

★★★★ (out of four) A+  
2 hours 20 min. Rated R.

see FILM, page 11


Woody Harrelson in *The People vs. Larry Flynt* (opening Fri.)

courtesy/COLUMBIA

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# FILM

## Unfriendly Ghosts

For a true indictment and historic perspective on the civil-rights movement, go check out the flaming crosses in Alan Parker's *Mississippi Burning*. Forsake the manly lawyer-on-a-crusade presence of Alec Baldwin or even the cliched widow-in-mourning from Whoopi Goldberg that director Rob Reiner forces them to ring out for two hours in *Ghosts of Mississippi*, a Hollywood-ized, sickly production that takes what could've been a serious subject (the life and assassination of black leader Medgar Evers) and tosses it onto the backseat, the hurting love sofa behind such star power as two actors who haven't touched decent film material in ages. Even the film's most assured and satisfying bit—the truly deranged performance from James Woods as Byron de La Beckwith—seems like a calculated Oscar act inserted only to try to lure Woods to a nomination. It might work because Woods is a fine actor who's always done great work, yet a film like *Ghosts* shouldn't be the one movie that gives Woods any overdue acting honors. Even the courtroom scenes (and there's a ton of them) seem tired and weak. Reiner's fiasco is one of 1996's biggest disappointments. Come on James, great actors and bad movies just don't mesh.

★1/2 (out of four) D+  
2 hours. 2 min. Rated PG-13.



James Woods in *Ghosts of Mississippi* courtesy/CASTLE ROCK

## A Dim Light

Never mess with an Academy award-winning original unless you know what you're doing. Obviously, for all the faults that taint *The Evening Star*, director and screenwriter Robert Harling didn't catch James L. Brooks' classic version of Larry McMurtry's early novel, *Terms of Endearment*. Shirley MacLaine returns as Aurora, the pesky-old Southern queen saddled with uncaring and obnoxious family members. With a shockingly lame supporting cast (that includes Juliette Lewis, Bill Paxton, and Scott Wolf), MacLaine does her best to upstage the dull material. In a funny performance as Aurora's Lone Star nemesis, Miranda Richardson shows off an accent so good that you'll swear she wasn't British. Also noteworthy is Marion Ross (*Happy Days*) as Aurora's devoted housekeeper. Her work has already been nominated for a Golden Globe. Yet, really that is no reason to watch this failure. For the true *Terms of Endearment* fans (like myself) who won't let the first picture go down in flames, the scene that woke me up from this dread was Jack Nicholson's brief return as Aurora's one-time astronaut boyfriend. Savor those 6 or 7 minutes Harling gives us. When Jack and Shirley are on, *The Evening Star* at least lets off a small spark.

★ (out of four) D-  
2 hrs. 8 min. Rated PG-13



Shirley MacLaine in *The Evening Star* courtesy/ABC

see FILM, page 13



Antonio Banderas and Madonna in *Evita* (opening Fri.)

courtesy/HOLLYWOOD

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David Ansen, NEWSWEEK

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Janet Maslin, THE NEW YORK TIMES

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# VIDEO REWIND

## A TIME TO KILL (Warner)

Matthew McConaughey, Samuel L. Jackson, Sandra Bullock, Kevin Spacey, Oliver Platt  
screenplay by Akiva Goldsman  
directed by Joel Schumacher  
★★★ (out of four) B

Samuel L. Jackson delivers in Joel Schumacher's blistering rendering of John Grisham's *A Time To Kill*. Jackson plays a distraught father who takes the law into his own hands when his daughter gets gang-raped by rednecks. Kevin Spacey is the D.A. out for judicial blood. Sandra Bullock could've done more with her fresh-out-of-law-school girly alter ego. Matthew McConaughey drives the film's point home in the unforgettable plea he gives the jury near the end. Army tanks, troops, and SWAT teams surround the courthouse outside, as everyone impatiently waits for the verdict that will either send poor Jackson to the death chair or life. My verdict is that this provocative film is the 2nd best adaptation of a Grisham case (behind 1993's *The Firm*). See it.

## WELCOME TO THE DOLLHOUSE

(Columbia-TriStar)  
Heather Matarazzo  
written and directed by Todd Solondz  
★★★ (out of four) B+

*Welcome to the Dollhouse* is every youngster's nightmare. Heather Matarazzo stars as Dawn Wiener, a tormented middle-schooler who has no friends and no one to turn to, not even her own family. In Todd Solondz's gritty essay on growing up and the tribulations of being accepted in the social circles of grade school, the comedy is kept to a subtle level without neglecting the drama that obviously permeates the story. When Dawn eventually makes friends with a boy she thinks of as a bully, he introduces her to his mentally-retarded younger brother. Moments like these show why *Dollhouse* is just one of many exceptional independents that surfaced in 1996. The film won the Grand Jury Prize at last January's Sundance Film Festival. See it.

## KINGPIN (MGM/UA)

Randy Quaid, Woody Harrelson, Bill Murray  
directed by Bobby and Peter Farrelly  
★★★ (out of four) B+

There were a few good comedies among last summer's litter. The Farrelly brothers follow up their *Dumb and Dumber* antics with *Kingpin*, an amazingly original gagfest that features rock troupe Blues Traveler as an Amish band belting those songs out amid the cornfields and grass. If you want to see Woody Harrelson, Bill Murray, and especially Randy Quaid (as an Amish bowling phenom), rent *Kingpin*. What happens to these guys only happens in the movies.

## MATILDA (Columbia-TriStar)

Danny DeVito, Mara Wilson, Rea Perlman, Pam Ferris, Embeth Davidtz  
directed by Danny DeVito  
★★★ (out of four) B

DeVito and screenwriter Nicholas Kazan turn Roald Dahl's charming fable on childhood strength and tolerance into a splendid, if slightly pompous, adventure. In addition to a well-rounded cast, Pam Ferris is hilarious and scary all in one as little Matilda's cruel school principal. DeVito exaggerates Ferris' heavy-set physique with wide-angle close-ups and off-key camera movements. The result is funny. Just as enjoyable as *James and the Giant Peach*, another Roald Dahl book made into a movie.

## THE ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU

(New Line)  
Marlon Brando, Val Kilmer, David Thewlis  
directed by John Frankenheimer  
★ (out of four) F

A stupid re-telling of H.G. Wells' classic story of genetic mutations and human control. In Frankenheimer's fiasco, Brando sleepwalks in albino drag. Silly costumes, phony makeup, and a dull pace make this one a *huge* mistake.

• all reviews by Dean G. Lewis

## Coming Next Week

• The music of *Six*

• The Campus Activities Board opens the semester with *CAB Fare*

• *Internet's Realm*

• Dean's reviews of *The People vs. Larry Flynt*, *Evita*, *Turbulence*, *The Relic*

• *Crossword*

• *Video Rewind*

## Welcome back to another semester @ UCF!

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# FILM

## Heavenly John

John Travolta, angel-style, doing his two-stepping and swinging as a rambunctious celestial being who idolizes John and Paul of the Beatles, not the apostles, mixes the pathos of Nora Ephron's offbeat mix of drama and comedy with uneasy results in *Michael*, Ephron's first feature since the disastrous *Mixed Nuts*. Looking back on her track record, she really hasn't made a decent film since 1993's *Sleepless in Seattle*. *Michael*'s supporting cast, unlike *The Evening Star*, is the thing to watch here. William Hurt, the quiet and forceful actor he is, shines as one of the tabloid reporters who needs Travolta's story to keep his job. Robert Pastorelli does an appealing turn as Hurt's friend and assistant. In the middle is Andie MacDowell, a new reporter who claims to be an angel expert. Ephron uses a romance between Hurt and MacDowell as a subplot. Yet *Michael* is unusually dry star-driven Hollywood hype, ever so strange coming from Ephron who's done great script work in the past. In the end, we realize all we've seen of Michael, the angel, is a barrage of silly dance routines. Travolta, with a little of *SNF* and *Pulp Fiction* shuffle still in his blood, gives us another film that ends with a stupid dance number on a street. After Streisand's *The Mirror Has Two Faces* and this flawed diddy, I'll go for three and bet the macarena.

★★1/2 (out of four) C+  
1 hour. 46 min. Rated PG.

## Slasher Alley

Wes Craven returns with a slight vengeance to wreak havoc on hapless teenage-horror nuts in *Scream*. The opening sequence, in which a frightened Drew Barrymore tangles with a crazed madman over the phone while cooking Jiffy Pop popcorn, jolts the nerves like a bolt of lightning. Craven's style hasn't diminished. He still chokes up violent, borderline exploitative fare geared to younger audiences. While *Scream* is no *A Nightmare on Elm Street* (1984), it is a somewhat enjoyable gorefest amid a slew of cheesy and cheap winter fare.

★★ (out of four) C  
1 hr. 35 min. Rated R.

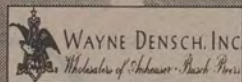
see FILM, page 15

## Provide-A-Ride Kickoff

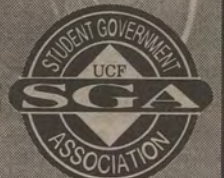
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# FILM



John Travolta is *Michael*

courtesy/NEW LINE

## Sisterly Love

Veteran stage director Jerry Zaks serves up a helping of dysfunctional family bliss in the heartfelt adaptation of Scott McPherson's off-Broadway play, *Marvin's Room*. The tough and unyielding Lee (Meryl Streep) is just about fed up with her pyromaniac son Hank (excellently portrayed by Leonardo DiCaprio) who has burned down their house in Jersey by setting an old stack of family photos on fire. Streep packs up and heads down to sunny Florida after learning her estranged sister Bessie (Diane Keaton) has leukemia. Maybe Hank, herself, or her other son (Hal Scardino) could lend a little bone marrow and save Bessie's life. Cranky Marvin (Hume Cronyn), the sisters' father, is slowly dying in the room Bessie and Aunt Ruth (Gwen Verdon) have set up for him in their beachside home. Marvin's favorite pastime is watching the glare from a mirror reflecting off his bedroom's walls. He finds solace and comfort in the act, not from family members who he thinks are strangers, especially when Lee and her sons arrive to spend the next few days. And in those days, a major therapeutic session will occur to shape all these peoples' lives for the better. *Marvin's Room* is a fine observation of a modern family coping with normal problems. What alleviates the film though is its exceptional acting. Keaton gives the story a humane tone with her gently inspiring performance. When Hank gives her a car ride down the beach, we can see an outbreak of happiness through the scared and troubled wrinkles on her face. A trip to Disney World and several visits to the local doctor (Robert De Niro) smooths the edges in between the powerful bantering we get from Streep, DiCaprio and Keaton. Talking isn't the only asset to *Marvin's Room*. It's the real-life aura that smacks these poor souls on their heads, forcing them to accept the hardships that life indiscriminately dishes out.

★★★ (out of our) B+  
1 hour. 35 min. Rated PG-13.



Meryl Streep

courtesy/WARNER BROS

## Grumpy Old Men

Walter Matthau and Ossie Davis star in Herb Gardner's parched adaptation of his own play, *I'm Not Rappaport*. This misguided effort is good a reason why not every play makes a great film. With the exception of *Glengarry Glen Ross* (David Mamet), most stage works aren't deserving of the screen. Their limited settings and more diverse themes aren't always represented properly. As in *Rappaport*, Gardner scores a failure with a story of two NYC strangers who gabble outside on a park bench. Gardner pounds the proceedings with ancient wisdom, philosophies, arguments and verbal assaults. After awhile, all this gibberish gets annoying.

★ (out of four) F  
2 hrs. 12 min. Rated PG.

# WANTED

The UCF Foundation is currently seeking 15 UCF students for part-time fundraising opportunities.

The Spring Phonathon is about to begin and we are looking for a select group of students who are looking for a job that will not conflict with school.

- Work evenings 6pm - 9:15pm
- No work on Friday or Saturday
- Position start at \$5.00 per hour

Each semester over thirty students help raise money for the university through the Phonathon.

If you are interested, please call 407.249.4740

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For more information, stop by SGA in the Student Center, or call 823-2191.

.....  
**Attention Clubs and Organizations!**

Pick up your budget packets in the SGA office today.  
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.....

## Provide-A-Ride

Starting in 1997,  
you will no longer need to worry about  
finding a ride home if you've had *too much to drink!*  
SGA will need volunteers to dispatch Provide-A-Ride from the SG Kiosk. This is an excellent way for your organization to earn social service hours!  
(see Steve Conti in SGA for details)






# Buzzer beaters plague Golden Knights' losing skid

by TONY MEJIA  
Asst. sports ed.

After suffering consecutive heart breaking losses to Coastal Carolina in double overtime of the consolation game of the Dr. Pepper Classic, and having victory snatched away from them by the whistle happy officiating crew in the conference opener against Jacksonville State, UCF took to the court this past Saturday night with something to prove against Samford University. What the Knights came away with is a story in itself.

This is a true story of a

basketball team looking to find an identity for the new year. A team whose primary resolution was to gel in time for the thick of the conference season. Chapter two was written against Samford and, much like chapter one, did not feature a happy ending.

After such a tumultuous stretch it would be interesting to see which Central Florida team showed up to face the Bulldogs. Would it be the inspired Knights team that plays well against tough competition, or would the apathetic UCF team to show up—the squad who is beat even before the opening tip.

Losers of six straight, UCF came out with great defensive intensity and took an early lead. Despite shooting poorly in the first half, the Golden Knights defense stifled Samford to a poor shooting performance and rode the coat-tails of a tremendous performance by freshman Mario Lovett. Lovett, from Tampa Leto HS, grabbed five offensive boards in the first half and led the Golden Knights to a 35-30 lead heading into the break. At halftime Lovett paced UCF with 10 points and seven rebounds, putting UCF in position to secure their first victory in seven tries.

"It doesn't matter to me if I'm playing inside or outside, whether I start or not," Lovett said. "I'm out here to help this team win games, and I think we're making a lot of progress."

On the Samford side of things, senior guard Jonathan Pixley led the Bulldogs with seven first half points, but was hampered by an ankle injury suffered in an earlier win over Stetson. Nobody was stepping up for Samford and head coach John Brady had to count on someone to pick up the load in the second half. He had no way of knowing if that somebody would step up.

Harry Kennedy, who knocked down two three pointers in the first half broke Darryl Davis' school record of 129 treys with a long jumper from the left side of the perimeter on his first second half attempt at 18:05 to break a 35-35 tie. The crowd of 840 gave a delayed standing ovation to the senior co-captain after the record was verified by the public address announcer. Unfortunately, the crowd wouldn't have much to cheer about for a long time.

Samford caught fire in the second half knocking down ev-



Head coach Kirk Speraw has had his team well prepared for each contest this season, yet the Knights continue to be held out of the win column.

everything in sight. Tyler Davis drained two threes after losing Cory Perry in man to man coverage. Reed Rawlings knocked down a three pointer and UCF was in complete disarray. With under two minutes remaining in the ball game Samford had increased their lead to ten. That's when Central Florida woke up. Fueled by poor free throw shooting by Samford on consecutive front ends of a 1 and 1 the Knights capitalized to go on an 11-1 run thanks to five straight points by Kennedy, a swirling three by Brad Traina, and the game tying trey from the corner by D'Quarius Stewart. Central Florida had come all the way back to tie. They believed in themselves and strived forward to even the score. Still, hearts are made to be broken, and the smallest man on the court had one final say.

Brady put the ball in the hands of his go to guy and isolated Pixley against UCF's defensive stopper, junior Tony Marlow. Pixley milked the clock down to 10 and made his move, penetrat-

ing the lane and being swarmed by a sea of UCF defenders. The savvy senior had a backup plan and coolly whipped the ball to the 5'9 Davis, who calmly drove the stake through the Golden Knights' heart by nailing a wide open three pointer from the right wing with just over three seconds left. Kennedy's last ditch effort from downtown was short and off the rim. The Knights had surrendered another one, 68-65 as Davis delivered a career high of 15 points in getting Samford through another nail-biter.

Next up for the struggling Knights are a pair of games in Louisiana against teams who are actually doing worse than UCF. Tomorrow, they battle Centenary who is 0-2 in the conference season, and then head up the road to battle SE Louisiana, who has one once all season despite being picked in the pre-season poll to win the TAAC western division. Central Florida's next home game is on the 19th against Georgia State.



photo/SAGINARO

Freshman D'Quarius Stewart has become a regular in the rotation and has provided quality minutes for the Runnin' Knights. Stewart has hit on 6 of 10 from downtown and is averaging 13 ppg in conference play.

## UCF GIVES TO THE MORE FORTUNATE

This Christmas, while you and yours were in the holiday spirit, the basketball programs of UCF handed out a few gifts to the more fortunate.

Namely the gifts of victories. At least they weren't returned.

After an earlier game made UCF 3-2, Guard Cory Perry said that UCF would do a better job of handling the basketball. This was to be important going into games against South Florida and North Carolina State.

Instead, UCF passed out turnovers like Christmas dessert. Now the Knights are 3-9. At least some of the grins they played had the talent to take instead of receive.

Canisius has made both the NIT and the NCAA in the 1990s, N.C. State has looked like a solid ACC team and South Florida has a winning record.

You would expect a young team like UCF to get up for the bigger teams on their schedule. Yet, they lost by scores of 80-55, 70-52 and 66-47 to the big three.

**Holiday Leftovers:** If UCF

### Gonzo's Growl

Derek Gonsoulin

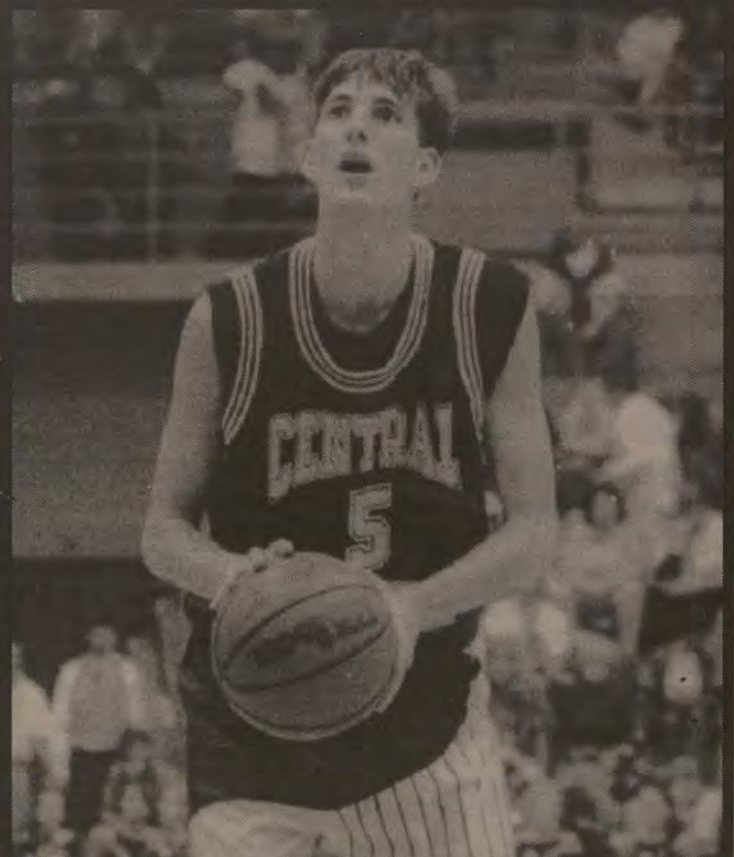
had not moved up a level in football, every Division I team in Florida would have a National Championship in the 1990s. Try recruiting now, McDowell. No pressure...Congrats Jaguars, but I still hate you. It took my Buccaneers five years to reach the NFC championship game and you do it in two. I guess having twice the draft picks and \$40 million in cap space for free agents has its privileges, cheaters...Emil Ekiyor, a former UCF defensive end, resigned with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers last week. Ekiyor spent 1996 on the Bucs five-man practice squad. He could make the 1997 squad with rumors that 1993 first-round pick Eric Curry could be released...Shantrice Saxon, a guard on the Lady Knights Basketball team, was named to the All-Tournament team at the Lady Eagle Classic after averaging 28 points over two games back in late November. She had the finest game of any UCF basketball player this season,

man or woman, with her 36 point, 20 rebound effort in a double overtime win over Mississippi Valley State...Line of the holidays: Harry Kennedy's stats in the double overtime loss to Coastal Carolina: Eight of 29 field goals, two for 13 with three-pointers and seven turnovers. That's what happens when you are the best player on an inexperienced team...I think I'm the only writer in the world without an E-Mail address at his newspaper. But if you really want to bug me, send your questions and comments to: KGonsoulin@aol.com.

**Predictions:** What a story it would be to have Jacksonville and Carolina both make the Super Bowl. But don't expect the advertisers to go nuts over two teams without national appeal.

**In a give-to-the-big-corporations-special:** New England 30 Jacksonville 27 and Green Bay 26 Carolina 24. If I go 0-2, who cares? Think of the stories I get to write about the Super-Expansion Bowl.

## The TRI-onic Man



photo/SPRINGER

Senior Harry Kennedy became UCF's all-time 3-point assassin Saturday bringing his career total to 131. The previous mark of 129 was held by Darryl Davis.

UCF Football is offering all full-time students SPRING conditioning classes Mon.—Fri. 6am to 7am. Classes run from Jan. 6 thru Mar. 3 and require a full physical and cardio exam. For more info contact Dana Martin @ 823-2026.